

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on December 7, 2011 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Tarah Cherry, Public Member
Jeffrey T. Marvin, Public Member
Maria Pietrantuono, RN

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Heidi Darling, LPN
Jennifer Long, APRN

ALSO PRESENT: Marianne Horn, Agency Legal Director, DPH
Joanne V. Yandow, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
David Tilles, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Jeffrey A. Kardys, Administrative Hearings Specialist, DPH
Pohn Kwee, Secretary II, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from the Porter and Chester Institute, the Norwich Tech LPN Program, and the University of Connecticut.

Chair Bouffard provided the students with an overview of the Board's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs.

INTRODUCTION OF MARIANNE HORN

Marianne Horn was present to introduce herself to the Board. Attorney Horn is the DPH Agency Legal Director and Director of the DPH Public Health Hearing Section. Prior to this appointment, Attorney Horn worked in the Research and Development Department at DPH on several projects, including the Stem Cell Program in Connecticut. Attorney Horn has replaced Attorney Donna Brewer, who retired this past summer.

CHAIR UPDATES

Mary Brown will be attending the NCSBN conference regarding alignment and accreditation of nursing programs.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Jeffrey A. Kardys presented the following Memoranda of Decision for review and signature.

LISA WILD CORNELL, LPN

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Tarah Cherry, to approve the Reinstatement Memorandum of Decision as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision.

DENISE LaBONTE, RN

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Jeffrey Marvin, to approve the Reinstatement Memorandum of Decision as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – LISA ENGENGRO, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Lisa Engengro. Ms. Engengro was not present nor did she have representation at today's meeting. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Marie Pietrantuono, that the Board grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Notice of Hearing and the Summary Suspension Order scheduling the hearing for December 21, 2011.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – LEO GONZALES, RN

Legal Office Attorney David Tilles presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Leo Gonzales. Mr. Gonzales was not present at this meeting. Mr. Gonzales' attorney, Diane Polan, was unable to attend today's meeting. Attorney Polan had filed a written objection to today's proceedings and had requested a continuance from DPH and was advised that the Department would not agree to a continuance. The Board was provided with Attorney Polan's written objection dated December 4, 2011 along with the Department's reply to Respondent's request received on December 5, 2011. Mary Brown moved and Tarah Cherry seconded that the Board grant the Department's Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Summary Suspension Order and the Notice of Hearing scheduling the hearing for December 21, 2011.

MOTION FOR MODIFICATION OF MEMORANDUM OF DECISION – TRACY MALUK, RN

Legal Office Attorney David Tilles presented the Board with a Memorandum of Decision Modification. Ms. Maluk was not present and was not represented by counsel at this meeting. Upon legal advice, Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Mary Brown, that the modification not be ruled on at this time and that this matter be set for a hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

REINSTATEMENT CONSENT ORDER – CHERYL McLEOD, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Reinstatement Consent Order (RCO) for Cheryl McLeod who voluntarily surrendered her RN license in October 2005. Ms. McLeod was present at this meeting. In the Proposed RCO Ms. McLeod must successfully pass the NCLEX-RN Exam and her license would then be placed on probation for four years with restrictions. Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Jeffrey Marvin, to accept the RCO as written. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ORDER – RENEE KROFSSIK, RN

Legal Office Attorney David Tilles presented the Board with a Consent Order (CO) for Ms. Krofssik. Ms. Krofssik was present at this meeting. Ms. Krofssik signed an Interim CO on September 2, 2010 which suspended her RN license until such time as the petition was resolved. In the Proposed CO Ms. Krofssik's license would be placed on probation for four years with restrictions. Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Jeffrey Marvin, to accept the CO as written. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARING – LAURENE MORGAN, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Morgan was not present and did not have representation at this hearing. There was no testimony provided. Attorney Fazzina presented the Board with a Motion to Deem Allegations which was unanimously accepted and approved by the Board.

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Mary Brown, that Ms. Morgan be found on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, that Ms. Morgan’s license be placed on probation. The motion failed as three Board Members were opposed.

A new motion was raised by Maria Pietrantuono, seconded by Jeffrey Marvin, that Ms. Morgan’s license be revoked. The motion passed as only Chair Bouffard and Mary Brown were opposed.

HEARING – NADINE WHITAKER, LPN

Legal Office Ellen M. Shanley was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Whitaker was present at this hearing pro se. Testimony was provided by Ms. Whitaker.

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Tarah Cherry, that Ms. Whitaker be found on all charges with the exception of #5. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Tarah Cherry seconded that the charges against Ms. Whitaker’s license be dismissed. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present that this meeting be adjourned at 10:25 AM.

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on December 21, 2011 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Jennifer Long, APRN
Jeffrey T. Marvin, Public Member
Maria Pietrantuono, RN

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Tarah Cherry, Public Member
Heidi Darling, LPN

ALSO PRESENT: Stacy Owens, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, DPH
Pamela Pelletier, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Linda Fazzino, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.

STUDENTS

There were no students present in the audience at this meeting.

OPEN FORUM

There were no comments or questions from the audience.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jennifer Filippone apprised the Board that she has not seen any legislative proposals that would impact nursing and licensure.

REORDERING OF THE AGENDA

The Board will reorder the agenda as they proceed.

SCHOOL ISSUES – NCLEX DATA ISSUES

Jennifer Filippone will discuss this with Stephen Carragher and Deborah Brown.

SCHOOL ISSUES – SAINT VINCENT’S COLLEGE APPROVAL STATUS

Pam Pelletier provided the Board with an update on this program. At the Board’s September 1, 2010 Meeting, Saint Vincent’s College Nursing Program was placed on Conditional Status due to a 66.6% first time pass rate, at which time the Board approved the program’s Plan of Correction. Ms. Pelletier reviewed the NCLEX Scores with the Board for the graduating class of May 2011. The NCLEX scores were noted to be 93% during the July 1 – September 30, 2011 reporting period.

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Mary Brown, to remove Saint Vincent’s from Conditional to Permanent Approval immediately. The motion passed unanimously.

SCHOOL ISSUES – LINCOLN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE – PLAN OF CORRECTION

Patricia DeLucia presented the Board with a corrective NCLEX-PN Action Plan for their Hamden Evening Program. The NCLEX pass rate scores for the evening graduating class of June 2011 were 67.9%.

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jeffrey Marvin, to place the Hamden evening program on Conditional Status and to accept the plan of correction presented. The motion passed unanimously. The program will remain on Conditional Status until December 21, 2012. The Board may ask for an interim report during that time.

SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE – WAIVER REQUEST

Pam Pelletier presented the Board with a waiver request for Sarah Louise Hoagland. There was no one present at this meeting from the program. Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Mary Brown, to grant Ms. Hoagland a one-year temporary waiver. The motion passed unanimously.

SOUTHERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY – WAIVER REQUEST

Pam Pelletier presented the Board with a waiver request for Cecystal Umeugo for a permanent waiver. There was no one present from the program. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to grant Ms. Umeugo a permanent waiver. The motion passed unanimously.

WESTERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY – WAIVER REQUEST

Pam Pelletier presented the Board with a waiver request for Laura Giovannoli. There was no one present from the program. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to grant the one-year temporary waiver for Ms. Giovannoli. The motion passed unanimously.

Pam Pelletier also presented the Board with a waiver request for Isabel Torres. Again, no one was present from the program. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Jeffrey Marvin, to grant the six-month temporary faculty education waiver. The motion passed unanimously.

QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY SURVEY REVIEW

Jean Lange, Dean School of Nursing, presented the Board with the school's five-year survey report. Pam Pelletier stated that the program had met all regulatory requirements outlined in the Criteria of the Nursing Education Program Review for Registered Nurses Preparatory Programs. After discussion, Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to approve the five-year school evaluation. The motion passed unanimously although the Board did request that an updated breakdown of the total number of student's surveyed in the program satisfaction surveys outline be provided to Pam Pelletier. The program's next review will be in December 2016.

CORRESPONDENCE/STATISTICS ON INQUIRIES RECEIVED OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

Pam Pelletier reviewed the inquiries received during November and stated that there were several on-line requests for program post-licensure.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARD OF NURSING

- Mary Brown recently attended the NCSBN meeting in Chicago regarding the World Education Café on behalf of Chair Bouffard. A report will be provided at the February 1, 2012 meeting.
- The NCSBN RN Test Plan is being reviewed and revised.
- Starting in 2014 the NCSBN all Annual Meetings will be held in Chicago and the Mid-Year Meetings locations will be announced.
- ANA/NCSBN Social Media Position Papers.

MOTION TO AMEND MEMORANDUM OF DECISION – CARLA COLLINS, RN

Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department of Public Health. Attorney Stanley K. Peck was present with Carla Collins.

On November 30, 2011 Attorney Peck filed a Motion to Amend Memorandum of Decision regarding Carla Collins to permit Ms. Collins to be employed by a personnel provider, as long as the provider is approved in advance by the Board, and fulfills all of the supervisory and reporting requirements of the terms of probation as set forth in the Memorandum of Decision signed by the Board on September 21, 2011.

On December 7, 2011 the Department of Public Health filed an Objection to Respondent's Motion and at the December 21, 2011 Board meeting oral argument was heard from both sides.

Following oral arguments, the Board considered the foregoing information as presented. Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Mary Brown, to deny Ms. Collins' request to Amend the Memorandum of Decision. The motion passed unanimously. The Board affirms their original decision as specified in the Memorandum of Decision issued on September 21, 2011.

CONSENT ORDER – JENNIFER SAYWARD, RN

Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Sayward was present at this meeting. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to accept the Consent Order as written. The motion passed unanimously.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Janice E. Wojick presented the Board with the following Memoranda of Decision.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION – MEGAN REILLY, LPN

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Jeffrey Marvin, to affirm their prior decision to revoke Ms. Reilly's license. The motion passed unanimously.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION – FRANCES J. DiLORETO, RN

Jeffrey Marvin moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to affirm their prior decision to revoke Ms. DiLoreto's license. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARING – LISA ENGENGRO, RN

Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Engengro was not in attendance and there was a question of proof of service. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to table this hearing and to reschedule to January 18, 2012 and to mail the rescheduling notice both certified mail return receipt requested and first class mail to the address of record and the other address in the file. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARING – DEIDRA ALLAYNE TIDWELL, RN

Legal Office Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Tidwell was not present at this hearing nor was she represented. Attorney Newton made an Oral Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. Jennifer Long moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded that due to the fact that Ms. Tidwell was not in attendance and that she did not file an Answer to the Statement of Charges, the Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted be granted. The motion passed unanimously.

Jeffrey Marvin moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, that the Board can find Ms. Tidwell on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Jeffrey Marvin moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, that Ms. Tidwell's registered nurse license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 10:40 AM.

Board of Examiners for Nursing